
Small Business Enterprise

Guide To Resources

Updated February 2012



Small-Business Resources

Ohio Secretary Of State

180 East Broad St., 16TH Floor
Columbus, OH 43215-3726

614-466-3910 or 877-767-3453

WEBSITE: www.sos.state.oh.us

The Secretary of State Business Services Division receives and approves articles of incorporation for Ohio corporations and grants licenses to out-of-state corporations seeking to do business in Ohio. Limited partnerships and limited liability companies also file with the Secretary of State's office. The Corporations Section of the Business Services Division also approves amendments to filed documents, mergers; consolidations and dissolutions, and registers trademarks, trade names, service marks and fictitious names. The section approves and keeps a registry of business names, names and addresses of statutory agents, incorporators' names, corporations' charter numbers, dates of incorporation, and the number of authorized shares per corporation. Copies of corporate documents for existing businesses may be purchased by calling (614) 466-2585. Additionally, a free copy of the Guide to Organizing a Business in Ohio, Legal Handbook for Nonprofit Organizations, or the Guide to Registering Your Trademark or Service Mark in Ohio, may be requested by calling (614) 466-3910 or by e-mail at prequest@sos.state.oh.us.

Business Services Questions or Comments, e-mail: busserv@sos.state.oh.us

Ohio Department Of Development

77 South High St. 28th Floor
Columbus, OH 43215

800-848-1300

P.O. Box 1001

Columbus, Ohio 43216-1001

WEBSITE: www.odod.state.oh.us

How to start a business, Grants, Small Business Administration Loans, and Financing Tools

Office Of Business Development

614-466-4551 or 800-848-1300

Frequently Asked Questions Regarding Starting A Business:

www.development.ohio.gov/entrepreneurship/faq.htm

1st Stop Business Connection

614-466-4232 or 800-248-4040

Small Business Development

Centers Of Ohio

77 South High St. 28th Floor
Columbus, OH 43215

WEBSITE: www.odod.state.oh.us/onestop/index.cfm

The 1st Stop Business Connection offers entrepreneurs free, comprehensive, and customized business start-up kits that include licensing and permit information for more than 270 different business types. Kits are available via direct download, email and U.S. mail. The Small Business Development Center Program also consists of specialty centers that offer free counseling, and no to low-cost training in the areas of manufacturing and Technology, and International Trade, as well as a center that specifically serves the Hispanic business community. For more information, visit www.entrepreneuriohio.org

Ohio Department Of Development

614-466-2711

Entrepreneurship & Small

Business Division (ESB),

77 South High St. 28th Floor
Columbus, OH 43215

WEBSITE: www.development.ohio.gov/Entrepreneurship

The Entrepreneurship and Small Business Division of the Ohio Department of Development provides assistance to business owners and entrepreneurs to encourage both the creation and expansion of small businesses throughout the state. This assistance consists of the **Small Business Hotline** that provides answers to business-related questions on multiple topics

**Workforce and Talent Division
(W&TD), Ohio Department Of Development**
77 South High St. 28th Floor
Columbus, OH 43215

614-466-4155

WEBSITE: www.development.ohio.gov/EconomicDevelopment.htm

The Workforce and Talent Division are committed to supporting Ohio's most valuable asset: our workers. The Division connects Ohio's economic development and workforce development resources at the state, regional, and local levels. The Division provides comprehensive solutions for businesses through creation and retention through site location, infrastructure development, and capital investment by industries traditionally strong in Ohio, as well as emerging advanced energy and technology industries.

**Latino Small Business
Development Center**

614-886-2461

6230 Busch Blvd. Suite 225
Columbus, OH 43229

WEBSITE: www.entrepreneurohio.org

Staffed by bi-lingual personnel, the Latino Small Business Development Center provides counseling and training in Spanish to start-up and existing businesses. Marketing and outreach is conducted through various Hispanics media (TV, newspapers, radio and magazines). The center covers core business management practice, access to capital, business plans, strategic planning and risk analysis.

Ohio Treasurer Of State

WEBSITE: www.tos.ohio.gov

The State of Ohio owns properties throughout the state—many of which are either unused or under-utilized. When this land sits without purpose, it's not only a missed opportunity—it can often contribute to community blight. The State Properties Program focuses on putting this land to new use.

Ohio Department Of Taxation

1-888-405-4039

77 South High St.
Columbus, OH 43215

WEBSITE: www.tax.ohio.gov

The primary function of the Ohio Department of Taxation is the collection and administration of 21 state taxes, three (3) local taxes, and the oversight of real property tax. The department also distributes revenue to local governments, libraries and school districts. Its mission is to provide quality service to Ohio taxpayers by helping them comply with their tax responsibilities and by fairly applying the tax law.

**Minority Contractors Business
Assistance Programs (MCBAP),
Minority Business Enterprise
Division (MBED)**

800-848-1300 or 614-644-8019

77 S. High Street, 26th Floor
Columbus, Ohio 43215

WEBSITE: www.development.ohio.gov/DMBA

The Minority Contractors Business Assistance Centers provide outreach for the Minority business community. The eight (8) MCBAP offices assist minority entrepreneurs with loan and bond packaging services, management, technical, financial and contract procurement assistance.

**Minority Business Enterprise
Division (MBED), Ohio Department
Of Development**

614-466-5700

77 South High St. 26th Floor
Columbus, OH 43215

WEBSITE: www.development.ohio.gov/DMBA

The Minority Business Enterprise Division assists in the creation, growth, and development of minority business enterprises throughout the state. A key priority of the Division is to increase the level of services statewide that support socially and economically disadvantaged businesses and emerging entrepreneurs in the urban core. The Division's loan and bond programs, which provide access to capital and bonding for firms that may not qualify for traditional lending or bonding, and management, technical, and procurement assistance services, are available at eight regional **Minority Contractors Business Assistance Centers** around the state.

Ohio Department Of Commerce

614-466-3636

77 South High St. 23rd Floor
Columbus, OH 43215

WEBSITE: www.com.ohio.gov

The Ohio Department of Commerce was created to meet certain needs, primarily the regulation of commercial activities for the citizens of Ohio. It enforces a variety of regulations that apply to: bedding and upholstered furniture boilers, cemeteries, check cashing services, construction compliance, credit service organizations, elevators, financial institutions, fireworks, insurance premium finance companies, labor laws, liquor control mortgage brokers and loan officers, pawnbrokers, precious metals dealers, pressure piping, real estate, real estate appraisers, second mortgage businesses, securities, small loan businesses, steam engineers, unclaimed funds, underground storage tanks, video service franchising, and worker safety. There are eight operating Divisions of the Department of Commerce:

- Division of Financial Institutions
- Division of Labor and Worker Safety
- Division of Real Estate
- Division of Securities
- Division of Industrial Compliance
- Division of Liquor Control
- Division of Unclaimed Funds
- Division of State Fire Marshal

Hamilton County Development Company, Inc.

513-631-8292 or 1-888-504-4232

David Main, President, ext 18
1776 Mentor Avenue
Cincinnati, Ohio 45212-3554

WEBSITE: www.hcdc.com

HCDC is a full-service economic development agency having a public purpose to retain and create jobs, and improve the local economy. Three program areas provide a one-stop shop for business financing, community economic development, and assistance for entrepreneurs; A high loan volume SBA Certified Development Company; A large urban/county Economic Development Office; and an award-winning business incubation program.

Business Loans
SBA 504 and Ohio 166
Andrew Young, Vice President, ext 16

Business Incubator
Hamilton County Business Center
Pant Longo, Director, ext 31

Allied Construction Industries

513-221-8020 or 513-221-8023(fax)

3 Kovach Drive
Cincinnati, OH 45215

WEBSITE: www.aci-construction.org/cctsc.htm

Cincinnati Construction Technical Support Center Program is a program to assist minority- and women-owned businesses to develop and accelerate their business growth as well as to increase the diversity of ownership in the construction community.

**Office Of Economic Development Coordinator
Tax Incentives, Community Assistance
and Available Sites Hamilton County**

513-631-8292, ext. 20

Vendor's License**513-946-4106**

The Office of Dusty Rhodes, Hamilton County Auditor
Licenses Division
138 East Court Street, Room 501
Cincinnati, Ohio 45202-1226

WEBSITE: http://www.tax.ohio.gov/divisions/sales_and_use/license.stm

Vendor's License for an Ohio business serves several purposes. First it gives notice to the local County Auditor and the Ohio Department of Taxation that a new business has been created. Second, it authorizes a business to make taxable sales and collect sales tax. It does not give a company or person an exemption from paying sales tax. Obtaining a vendor's license solely to avoid paying sales tax is a fraudulent act and a violation of Ohio law. In addition, a vendor's license helps the consumer understand more about the business with which they are dealing. The fee is \$25.00. The fee for a Transient License is \$25.00. The Department of Taxation issues these. Contact the Department at **(614) 466-7350** or the Cincinnati District Office at **1-888-405-4089** for answers to any questions you may have.

Cincinnati Public Schools Supplier Diversity**513-363-0476**

2651 Burnet Avenue

Fax: 363-0415

Cincinnati, Ohio 45219-2551

WEBSITE: www.cps-k12.org/business/business.htm

The Small Business Administration (SBA) size and revenue standards are used as the criteria for registration. You may "self" certify your business concerns if you do not have business certificates by using the SBA size and revenue standards. CPS' Supplier Diversity considers "Social and Economic Disadvantage" to be certain groups including women, Black Americans, Hispanic Americans, Native Americans, Asian-Pacific Americans, Subcontinent Asian-Pacific Americans, or other minorities found to be disadvantaged by the U.S. Fax or mail copies of your business certificates to the attention of:

Dave Durkin, Purchasing

purchasing@cps-k12.org**513-363-0456**

Cincinnati Public Schools

Purchasing Department

P.O. Box 5384

Cincinnati, OH 45201-5384

Cincinnati USA Regional Chamber**513-686-2986**

441 Vine Street, 300 Carew Tower

Fax: 579-3101

Cincinnati, Ohio 45201-2812

WEBSITE: www.cincinnatiachamber.com

The Chamber provides numerous services, including business retention and attraction, programs and events, member benefits to improve members' bottom line, solutions to members' workforce challenges, government advocacy, and more to create and sustain a positive business climate for our community, including demonstrating a commitment to small business assistance and economic inclusion.

Greater Cincinnati Microenterprise Initiative Inc.**513-569-4816****Fax: 513-569-4356**

1740 Langdon Farm Road, Suite 378

Cincinnati, Ohio 45237-3817

WEBSITE: www.gcmi.org/

GCMI provides entrepreneurial training classes designed to help you develop your business plan, small business lending, one-on-one technical assistance, and access to other small business resources.

Greater Cincinnati Northern Kentucky African American Chamber Of Commerce And Cincinnati Minority Business Development Organization**513-751-9900****Fax: 751-9100**

2945 Gilbert Avenue

Cincinnati, Ohio 45206-1514

WEBSITE: www.gcaacc.com/

The chamber is the leading business advocate for the African American Community. The chamber works to create new market opportunities by providing education, access to capital and resources for economic revitalization of the African American Business Community.

Internal Revenue Service**513-621-6281****WEBSITE:** www.irs.gov

The Internal Revenue Service is the nation's tax collection agency and administers the Internal Revenue Code enacted by Congress. IRS provides information regarding Starting, Operating and Closing and Business, Employer I.D. Numbers, and Taxes.

OHIO – KENTUCKY – INDIANA**513-621-6300****Regional Council of Governments****Fax: 513-621-9325**

720 East Pete Rose Way, Suite 420

WEBSITE: www.oki.org/

OKI's primary mission has been transportation, but is not confined to just highways and pavement. (OKI) is a council of local governments, business organizations and community groups committed to developing collaborative strategies to improve the quality of life and the economic vitality of the region. Together, OKI works to solve interstate dilemmas, create far-reaching development plans, break through political bureaucracy, provide services to the public and advocate for federal funding. OKI has final authority over all federal dollars spent on transportation in the region.

The Port Of Greater Cincinnati**513-621-3000****Development Authority Economic****Fax: 513-621-1080**

1014 Vine Street, Suite 1600

Cincinnati, Ohio 45202-1152

WEBSITE: www.cincinnatiport.org/

The Port of Greater Cincinnati Development Authority partners with local communities to facilitate economic development within the City of Cincinnati and Hamilton County, Ohio. This important work enhances the use of the land resources throughout the area, resulting in the retention and generation of jobs and the generation of additional tax revenues. Partnering with property owners, developers, end-users, and non-profits, they have launched a variety of development projects. These projects benefit from significant private sector investment. They have access to a unique assortment of management and financing tools aimed at attracting significant private sector investment in large-scale development projects. Brownfield redevelopment and bond financing are our two core functions. They respond to requests for public support of local private and non-profit development projects by assembling the right team, defining clear project goals, building consensus among team members, and blending project management with political leadership. In our role as a public-sector partner in these collaborations, they have been able to deliver vehicles for financing structures, obtain grants, serve as property owner, assist in regulatory approvals, and provide technical assistance.

The Public Library of Cincinnati and Hamilton County**513-369-6934****Information and Reference Department**

800 Vine Street

Cincinnati, Ohio 45202-2009

WEBSITE: www.cincinnati.library.org/

Locate government and business information with websites that have been selected and reviewed by our librarians.

Service Corps Of Retired Executives (SCORE)**513-684-2812**

550 Main Street, Room 2-512

Fax: 513-684-6355

Cincinnati, Ohio 45202-5208

WEBSITE: www.scorechapter37.org

SCORE provides professional guidance and information to all to maximize the success of America's existing and emerging small businesses. SCORE Counselors and representatives from the local business community conduct a variety of regularly scheduled, low-cost educational seminars that provide valuable information and techniques necessary for establishing and managing a successful small business.

SmartMoney Community Services

1731 Vine Street
Cincinnati, Ohio 45210-6424

WEBSITE: www.smart-money.org

SmartMoney Community Services provides underserved individuals in Over-the-Rhine and other Cincinnati Communities with comprehensive, affordable financial services and economic education programs that empower them to become more secure and financially independent.

513-241-7266
Fax: 513-361-4783

U.S. Small Business Administration

550 Main Street, Room 2-522
Cincinnati, Ohio 45202-5208

WEBSITE: www.sba.gov

The U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA) is as an independent agency of the federal government to aid, counsel, assist and protect the interests of small business concerns, to preserve free competitive enterprise and to maintain and strengthen the overall economy of our nation. It recognizes that small business is critical to our economic fiber and strength, to building America's future, and to helping the United States compete in today's global marketplace. The SBA helps Americans start, build and grow businesses

513-684-2814
Fax: 513-684-3251

How can I get a Small Business Administration (SBA) loan?

The U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA) programs are designed to encourage commercial lenders to make loans directly to business owners and entrepreneurs. The SBA does not make direct loans. Please contact your local Ohio Small Business Development Center (SBDC) for assistance. A list of local SBDCs can be found at www.entrepreneuriohio.org

Southwest Central Ohio Procurement**Technical Assistance Center Cincinnati PTAC Office**

Meredith Threatt, Director
4700 Ashwood Drive, Suite 135
Cincinnati, Ohio 45241-2477

WEBSITE: www.swcoptac.org

SWCO PTAC's assist small businesses in selling to local, state and federal governments, how to use procurement forecasts, marketing tips and tools, such as GSA & State Term Schedules. SWCO PTAC helps local, state and federal government agencies connect with qualified companies that are serious about doing business with the government.

513-489-2528

City of Cincinnati**Office of Economic Development****Business Development Division**

WEBSITE: <http://cincinnati-oh.gov/cdap/pages/-3479-/>

The Business Development Division provides resources for/to the following: starting/expanding businesses, business owners, commercial developers and neighborhood business districts.

513-352-6146

Small Business Development Centers

American Small Business Centers

513-448-4071

3805 Edwards Road, Suite 550
Cincinnati, OH 45209

WEBSITE: www.AmerSBC.com

The American Small Business Centers provide coaching, training, counseling, matchmaking services, etc to small businesses. The services assist in starting, sustaining and growing small businesses.

One-on-one and group services are provided.

Hamilton County Business Center

513-631-8292

Mary J. Myers, Region Director, ext 26
1776 Mentor Avenue

Fax: 631-4887

Cincinnati, Ohio 45212-3554

WEBSITE: www.hcdc.com

Hamilton County Business Center is an incubation center/program that helps businesses launch and build successful businesses. HCBC is a mixed-use, technology-focused incubation program that caters to those entrepreneurs who are starting up an innovative and growing business.

TechSolve

513-948-2000

6705 Steger Drive
Cincinnati, Ohio 45237-3097

Fax: 948-2109

WEBSITE: www.techsolve.org

TechSolve helps clients identify and implement process changes and growth solutions that yield the best results for today's challenges and tomorrow's opportunities. TechSolve helps small to mid-sized companies implement business-building process improvement solutions that deliver measurable, top-line and bottom-line results.

Urban League Of Greater Cincinnati Economic Empowerment Center

513-281-9955

3458 Reading Road

Fax: 513-281-0455

Cincinnati, Ohio 45229-3128

WEBSITE: www.cincinnatieec.com

The Urban League's Small Business Development Center (SBDC) offers one-stop assistance to individuals and small businesses, providing a wide variety of information and guidance. The program is a cooperative effort of the private sector, the educational community and federal, state and local governments. Located at Union Institute and University, SBDC partners include the Ohio Department of Development, the Small Business Administration, and the Hispanic Chamber of Commerce. For more information about the SBDC and its services, contact Sheila Mixon at (513) 487-1274.

Area Members Of The National Association Of Surety Bond Producers

The Hauser Group

8260 Northcreek Drive, Suite 200
Cincinnati, Ohio 45236-2296

WEBSITE: www.hig1.com

e-mail – info@thehausergroup.com

The Hauser Group is a US-focused financial services firm offering private equity investments, commercial insurance brokerage services and third party corporate solutions. They believe an alignment of interests and (creating) a shared vision with clients leads to success. Management Liability and Surety Department. Responsible for the review, analysis and placement of all management liability coverages, including D&O, EPLI, Fiduciary and Crime. Additionally, oversees the placement and execution of all surety bond business.

513-745-9200
Fax: 513-587-0062

Schiff, Kreidler-Shell, Inc.

1 West 4th Street, Suite 1300
Cincinnati, Ohio 45202-3612

WEBSITE: www.sksins.com

e-mail: rgigax@sksins.com

Insurance and Risk Services, Personal Insurance, Benefits and Financial Services, Surety Bond, Business Insurance and Risk Management.

513-977-3133
513-977-3129

USI Midwest

312 ELM STREET, 24TH FLOOR
CINCINNATI, OHIO 45202-2992

WEBSITE: <http://www.cincinnati.usi.biz>

Diversified insurance firm focused on providing fully integrated Commercial Property & Casualty insurance, Employee Benefit Programs, Auto & Homeowners insurance, Wealth Management solutions and Professional Healthcare Liability.

513-852-6300
Fax: 852-5712

Wells Fargo Insurance Services of Cincinnati

1014 Vine Street
Suite 1100

Cincinnati, OH 45202

WEBSITE: <https://wfis.wellsfargo.com/LBUs/WFIS/OH/Cincinnati/Pages/default.aspx>

Wells Fargo provide a selection of products and services combined with exceptional knowledge in a variety of industries, including property, casualty, benefits, international, personal lines and life products.

513-333-2075

Northern Kentucky Resources

Northern Kentucky Chamber of Commerce

Daniele Longo, Vice President, Business Development
& International Trade
300 Buttermilk Pike, suite 330
Ft. Mitchell, Kentucky 41017-3924

WEBSITE: www.nkychamber.com

Provide resources in support of small business growth from start-up stage to company maturity. In addition, we have developed programs aiming to enhance opportunities to develop qualified new business, build referral networks, and implement innovative strategies to improve the bottom line.

859-578-6385

Fax: 859-578-8802

NKU Small Business Deveopment Center

Carol Cornell, Director
305 Johns Hill Road
Northern Kentucky University
Highland Heights, Kentucky 41099-0506

WEBSITE: <http://cob.nku.edu/institutes/sbdc>

The SBDC at Northern Kentucky University provides a wide variety of professional consulting and training services to small business owners and prospective small business owners, in the Northern Kentucky and Greater Cincinnati metropolitan area. In a typical year, the SBDC staff will provide assistance to several thousand individuals through free confidential consulting as well as modestly-priced classroom seminars and workshops. The Center provides services using professional consultants. For additional information about the SBDC direct emails to sbdc@nku.edu

859-442-4281

Fax: 859-442-4285

Ohio Small Business Investment Companies

Capvest Ventures, LP

1 West 4th Street, Suite 415
Cincinnati, Ohio, 45202-3609

WEBSITE: www.capvestvc.com

Capvest Venture Fund, a venture capital fund, was established to make investments in a diversified portfolio of growth and expansion companies and has received approval to be licensed as a Small Business Investment Company (SBIC). The Fund seeks to generate long-term returns in excess of those normally available to investors through conventional investments and is uniquely positioned to invest in today's market.

513-721-8831

Fax: 513-639-3072

River Cities Capital Fund, LP

River Cities SBIC III, LP
221 East 4th Street, Suite 1900
Cincinnati, Ohio 45202-4151

WEBSITE: www.rccf.com

River Cities seeks to invest in high growth information technology and healthcare companies that have a material customer base and are nearing profitability. These expansion stage opportunities offer our investors high return opportunities with manageable risk.

513-621-9700

Fax: 513-579-8939

Triathlon Medical Ventures Fund LP

250 East 5th Street, Suite 1100
Cincinnati, Ohio 45202-4175

WEBSITE: www.tmvp.com

Triathlon Medical Ventures is a Midwest-based venture capital firm that invests exclusively in the life sciences. They provide equity capital to early and expansion stage companies with proprietary biomedical technology platforms or products addressing significant human healthcare needs.

513-723-2618

Fax: 513-723-2615

Walnut Investment Partners, LP**Walnut Private Equity Fund, LP**

312 Walnut Street, Suite 1151
Cincinnati, Ohio 45202-4026

WEBSITE: www.thewalnutgroup.com

This is a diversified private equity investment company. They specialize in transactions that require creativity, flexibility, business acumen, and experience to structure a value-added result for all parties involved.

513-651-3300

Fax: 513-651-1084

Recognized Certifying Agencies

City Of Cincinnati **513-352-3144**
Small Business Enterprise Program **513-352-3157**
Office Of Contract Compliance
Two Centennial Plaza
Cincinnati, Ohio 45202-1947
WEBSITE: <http://www.cincinnati-oh.gov/cmgr/pages/-13239>

Small Business Enterprise (SBE) Certification

The Small Business Enterprise (SBE) Program is to promote the economic welfare of the people of the City of Cincinnati; to mitigate the effects of discrimination against SBEs; and to promote full and equal business opportunity for all persons doing business with the City of Cincinnati. This SBE program enacts a Narrowly Tailored Remedy program that is race and gender neutral.

Small Businesses must have a fixed office in Hamilton County one year prior to application. Self-Certification Application available to firms contracting no more than \$50,000 per contract. Net worth of each owner not to exceed \$750,000. The City's Nondiscrimination and Good Faith Effort policies are enforced. Construction over \$100,000 includes a mandatory 20% subcontracting goal. Supporting Subcontracting forms to secure increased SBE participation. Firms certified by other governmental agencies will be required to be certified under this program regardless of previous certification. Workshop and seminars for contractor development.

South Central Ohio Minority Supplier **513-579-3104**
Development Council (SCOMSDC) **Fax: 579-3101**
Minority Business Enterprise Program Development
441 Vine Street, Suite 300
Cincinnati, Ohio 45202-2813
WEBSITE: www.scomsdc.org

Minority Business Enterprise (MBE) Certification

The South Central Ohio Minority Supplier Development Council (SCOMSDC), an affiliate of the National Minority Supplier Development Council (NMSDC) is dedicated to providing a direct link between Minority Business Enterprises (MBEs) and its Corporate members. The mission of the NMSDC, which is to expand opportunities for minority-owned companies; to encourage mutually beneficial economic links between minority suppliers and the public and private sectors; and to help build a stronger, more equitable society by supporting and promoting minority business development.

SCOMSDC creates and fosters an environment for the development of mutually beneficial relationships and opportunities between Certified Minority Business Enterprises and Member organizations.

State of Ohio **614-466-8380**
Department Of Administrative Services (DAS)
Equal Opportunity Division
Minority Business Enterprise & Encouraging Diversity, Growth, & Equity (EDGE) Programs
30 East Broad Street, Suite 1840
Columbus, Ohio 43215-3414
WEBSITE: www.das.ohio.gov/eod/

MBE and Historically Underutilized Business Enterprise (HUD) Certification

Certifies businesses for participation in the Encouraging Diversity, Growth and Equity (EDGE) and Minority Business Enterprise (MBE) programs. EDGE is a business development program for socially and disadvantaged businesses. EDGE establishes goals for state agencies in awarding contracts to certified businesses. The MBE program assists minority businesses in obtaining state contracts through a set-aside procurement program for goods and services.

State of Ohio Department of Transportation 614-728-8498 or 614-466-7170
Office of Contracts, Disadvantage Business Enterprise Services Section
1980 West Broad Street, 1st Floor
Columbus, Ohio 43223-1102
WEBSITE: www.dot.state.oh.us/CONTRACT/dbe.htm

Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE) Certification

The **Ohio Department of Transportation (ODOT)** is the organization in charge of developing and maintaining all state and federal roadways in the state of Ohio with exception of the Ohio Turnpike.

ODOT has broken up the state of Ohio into 12 districts in order to facilitate regional development. Each district is responsible for managing the planning and construction of the regions state and federal highways.

U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA) 614-469-6860, ext. 267
Columbus District Office Fax: 614-469-2391
Section 8 (a) Business Development Program
401 North Front Street, Suite 200
Columbus, Ohio 43215-2240
WEBSITE: www.sba.gov/oh/columbus

Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE) Certification

SBA maintains and strengthens the Nation's economy by aiding, counseling, assisting, and protecting the interests of small businesses and by helping businesses and families recover from disasters. The BD (Business Development) assists firms owned and controlled by economically and socially disadvantaged individuals enter the economic mainstream. To be responsive to the needs of small businesses seeking business development assistance. SBA is an independent agency of the federal government to aid, counsel, assist and protect the interests of small business concerns, to preserve free competitive enterprise and to maintain and strengthen the overall economy of our nation.

Ohio River Valley Women's Business Council 513-487-6534
(ORV-WBE) Fax: 513-559-5447
3458 Reading Road
Cincinnati, Ohio 45229-3128
WEBSITE: <http://www.orvwbc.org>

Women Business Enterprise (WBE) Certification

Can certify your business as a nationally recognized Woman Business Enterprise (WBE). ORV-WBC is affiliated with the Women's Business Enterprise National Council (WBENC). Once certified, your business is listed in the WBENC national database, which is accessed by hundreds of corporations throughout the United States. Many corporations require that you be certified before they will extend a contract to you as a WBE.